

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 2, and 4-27 are currently pending in this application. Consideration and entry of this response is respectfully requested.

DOCKET NUMBER

Applicants respectfully request that the docket number for this application be changed from 13115 to "API-02-06-US", if possible. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's assistance with this request.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103(a)**A. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 2, 4-14 AND 20**

Claims 1, 2, 4-14, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hurpin in view of Hodge, Lehner, et al., and Dow, et al. (US 2003/0022854). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection as indicated below.

Applicants' previous arguments as to the combination of Hurpin, Hodge, and Lehner were deemed persuasive by the Examiner in this Office Action, and will not be repeated here. The Examiner now combines these references with Dow (US 2003/0022854), alleging that Dow teaches intranodal administration. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Dow is a continuation-in-part (filed November 30, 2001) of U.S. Pat. No. 6,693,086 (the '086 patent), which was filed on June 29, 1998. The Examiner alleges that Dow supplements Hurpin, Hodge, and Lehner by teaching intranodal administration. However, priority document '086 patent is completely silent as to direct administration into the lymph node, as instantly claimed. The Dow CIP does mention intranodal administration, as alleged by the Examiner. However, the CIP filing date is after that of the instant application. Thus, the Dow CIP is unavailable as a reference under 35 U.S.C. 103. As such, the addition of Dow to Hurpin, Hodge, and Lehner is improper.

As such, Applicants believe that neither Hurpin, Hodge, Lehner (alone or in combination, as previously argued), nor the combination of these references with Dow,

render the instantly claimed invention obvious. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

B. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 18-19

Claims 18-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hurpin in view of Hodge, Dow, and Lehner, and further in view of Zaremba, and Salgaller. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection as indicated below.

Applicants' previous arguments as to the combination of Hurpin, Hodge, Lehner, Zaremba and Salgaller were deemed persuasive by the Examiner in this Office Action, and will not be repeated here. The Examiner now combines these references with Dow (US 2003/0022854), alleging that Dow teaches intranodal administration. Applicants respectfully disagree.

As previously discussed, Dow is a continuation-in-part (filed November 30, 2001) of U.S. Pat. No. 6,693,086 (the '086 patent), which was filed on June 29, 1998. The Examiner alleges that Dow supplements the other cited references by teaching intranodal administration ("Applicants arguments . . . have not been found persuasive in view of the teachings of Dow.", p. 8 of Aug. 10, 2004 OA) However, as previously discussed, priority document '086 patent is completely silent as to direct administration into the lymph node, as instantly claimed. The Dow CIP does mention intranodal administration, as alleged by the Examiner. However, the CIP filing date is after that of the instant application. Thus, the Dow CIP is unavailable as a reference under 35 U.S.C. 103. As such, the addition of Dow to the other cited references cannot render the instantly claimed invention obvious. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

C. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 21-28

Claims 21-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hurpin in view of Hodge, Dow, and Lehner, and further in view of Barnett, et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection as indicated below.

Applicants' previous arguments as to the combination of Hurpin, Hodge, Lehner, and Barnett were deemed persuasive by the Examiner in this Office Action, and will not

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be repeated here. The Examiner now combines these references with Dow (US 2003/0022854), alleging that Dow teaches intranodal administration. Applicants respectfully disagree.

As previously discussed, Dow is a continuation-in-part (filed November 30, 2001) of U.S. Pat. No. 6,693,086 (the '086 patent), which was filed on June 29, 1998. The Examiner alleges that Dow supplements the other cited references by teaching intranodal administration ("Applicants arguments . . . have not been found persuasive in view of the teachings of Dow.", p. 8 of Aug. 10, 2004 OA) However, as previously discussed, priority document '086 patent is completely silent as to direct administration into the lymph node, as instantly claimed. The Dow CIP does mention intranodal administration, as alleged by the Examiner. However, the CIP filing date is after that of the instant application. Thus, the Dow CIP is unavailable as a reference under 35 U.S.C. 103. As such, the addition of Dow to the other cited references cannot render the instantly claimed invention obvious. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

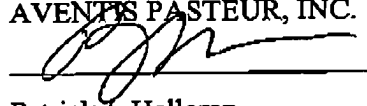
CONCLUSIONS

Consideration and entry of this amendment is respectfully requested. Applicants respectfully maintain that claims 1, 2 and 4-27 are now in condition for allowance and request that a Notice of Allowance for the pending claims. If the Examiner has any questions or believes a discussion would expedite prosecution, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned at 570-839-5446.

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Respectfully submitted,

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